

SUMTER LITTLE THEATRE
PRESENTS



The Gospel Comedy Musical

DIRECTED BY
KATIE DAMRON

Musical Direction by
Shelden Timmerman

JANUARY 21-24 & 28-31, 1999

Sumter Little Theatre

presents

SMOKE ON THE MOUNTAIN

WRITTEN BY
CONNIE RAY

CONCEIVED BY
ALAN BAILEY

MUSICAL ARRANGEMENTS BY
MIKE CRAVER AND MARK HARDWICK

ORIGINALLY PRODUCED BY THE
MCCARTER THEATRE COMPANY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

OFF-BROADWAY PRODUCTION BY THE
LAMB'S THEATRE COMPANY
NEW YORK CITY

There will be a fifteen minute intermission

- Please -

NO FOOD OR DRINK IN THE THEATRE.

The concession area, in the lobby, will be open during intermission.
NO PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE TAKEN DURING THE PERFORMANCE.

The Cast

Wendell Prescott (Rev. Mervin Oglethorpe): Wendell, a 1986 graduate of University of South Carolina with a degree in Business Finance, is pleased to debut at SLT with this show. He participated in his high school's drama program and is the past president of the USC Alumni Association. He is currently working at Kelly Services.

Dr. Kenneth Thomas (Burl Sanders): Ken appeared in Sumter Little Theatre's 1996 production of "Pump Boys and Dinettes" ("I was the guy with the crush on Dolly Parton."). Raised in Virginia, he is the pastor at Sumter's Swan Lake Presbyterian Church ("912 Haynsworth Street. A small growing band of believers. Worship services at 11:00! Ya'll come!"). Formerly an employee of Babcock & Wilcox's nuclear power

division, he has pastored churches near Lynchburg, Virginia and Fayetteville, North Carolina, as well as on Hilton Head Island, SC. He is current president of our Sumter County Ministerial Association, and is on the board of Sumter United Ministries. Ken's hobbies include playing musical instruments - flute is his new endeavor; backpacking; golfing; photography; oil painting; reading; and swapping stories with people. He is a newly-wed (1997) with four of his own children and two step-children.

Jodi Melton (Vera Sanders): Smoke on the Mountain is also Jodi's debut on the SLT stage. A piano major graduate from the NC School of the Arts, Jodi has always had the performing arts as a part of her life. Jodi attended and performed in the Tibor Varga Festive De Music De Sion in Sion, Switzerland. Jodi attended Ricks College, Boise State University and USC. A native of Camden, she and her family moved to Sumter over two years ago from Idaho. She has two children and her husband Kelly is also very active in SLT.

Buzz Cornell (Stanley Sanders): SLT audiences will remember Buzz from several productions "Little Murders", "The Boys Next Door", "Social Security" and most recently "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever". Over the last ten years, Buzz has acted in dramas, musicals and comedies and has also worked as stage manager. Buzz is a retired USAF pilot, who has launched his second career as an Occupational Therapist with Tuomey Healthcare System. Buzz says he "loves the versatile theatrical experiences that SLT offers".

O'Shea Morris (Dennis Sanders): A native of Sumter, O'Shea is a professional musician of nine years. He last appeared on the SLT stage in Cheaper by the Dozen eight years ago.

Angela Cangioli (Denise Sanders): Angela is a 24 year old graduate from Penn Sate University, with a degree in advertising/public relations. She has starred in high school productions of Little Shop of Horrors, Peter Pan. and Bye-Bye birdie. Angela is currently employed at SAFE Federal Credit Union.

Kristin Clark (June): From her first appearance at the Sumter Little Theatre at age 9 as Lucy in "The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe" to her most recent performance as Patsy in "Little Murders", Kristin's proudest moment was watching her daughters in their first SLT production this last summer. She would like to thank her family and co-workers at Jones, Seth, and Shuler for their patience in listening to her practice the "Blood Medley" and "Transportation Medley" over and over and over. . .

Production Staff

Director Katie Damron

Musical Director. Shelden Timmerman

Technical Director/Designer Booth Chilcutt

Stage Manager Jason Cannon

Costumers Marge Cowles
Shannon Flaherty

Set Construction Peggy Chilcutt

Scenic Artists Cecile Morrison

Set Concept Sheldon Timmerman

Fan Design. Quintessence Publications

Sign Language Consultant Catherine Wilson

Ushers. SLT Theatre School Students

Box Office Manager Jeannie Purdy

Acknowledgements

The Item, Sumter Packaging, Patriot Hall Staff

The Sumter Little Theatre is sponsored in part by contributions from the Junior Welfare League of Sumter, the Sumter County Cultural Commission, and the South Carolina Arts Commission which receives funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.

McKenzie Paint & Decorating

A bit of background information:

The play takes place in the sanctuary of the Mount Pleasant Baptist church in Mount Pleasant, North Carolina, located just west of Hickory near the Blue Ridge Mountains. It is a Saturday night in June, 1938. The United States is in the last years of the Great Depression. Organized religion is at its peak.



Mount Pleasant's principal industries are farming and pickle production. The Mount Pleasant Pickle Plant has lately begun laying people off at an alarming rate due to the economy. The factory makes everyone and everything in Mount Pleasant smell of vinegar and dill.

Mount Pleasant Baptist has a membership of 63-64 when Becca Robinson gets baptized next Sunday. Saturday Night Sings by families of gospel singers have become the much needed and highly appreciated entertainment of the time. Gospel-singing families traditionally sing at one church on Saturday night, then do a few guest appearances on Sunday mornings at other churches in the area. The Sanders are appearing tonight after a five-year hiatus from the gospel-singing circuit. They travel in an ancient family bus with "The Sanders Family" hand-painted on the side.

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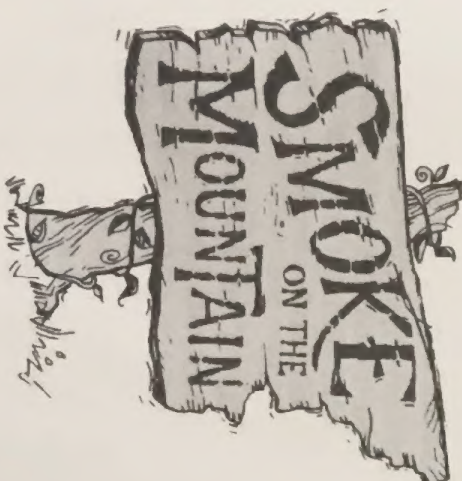
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